

# The Salt Lake Herald.

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## THE STRENUOUS LIFE.

COMPARED WITH THE delirium of the effete east, the excitement in Utah over the election is as a mill pond to a Niagara. In Chicago, for instance, the Republicans have been running a line of "prosperity" wagons, with speakers who appeal to the workmen and shop employees at noon and as they leave work at 6 o'clock. These peripatetic fountains of eloquence had their advantages; they were easily moved, cheap in operation and covered ground rapidly. Pleasant music, good speakers and other attractions were on the wagon platform, and the scheme worked admirably for a season.

The time came, however, when the chairman in charge of routes slipped a cog and sent his wagons into the stockyards district. Now, the stockyards surroundings do not inculcate sentiments of gentle toleration for the man who rubs you the wrong way. Anywhere in that district of blood and aromas a knock-down is considered the most effective argument in a dispute, and it is customary to use the best weapon within reach when debate opens.

So it happened that the beautiful wagons Mr. Hanna had furnished forth, struck a corduroy road, so to speak, as they approached the Halstead street district of the aforesaid yards. The moment the first speaker announced that all his hearers were very prosperous and that Bryan, a blatherskite (following Mr. Hanna's remarks of the night before), somebody threw a string of decayed sausage with such force and accuracy that it stopped the speech for the nonce. Before the orator could catch his second wind the air was filled with missiles varying in offensive attributes, but all within the stockyards rules of war.

That closed the meeting quicker than any previous question, and the driver resigned on the spot. He said he couldn't afford to monkey with the sentiment in Armourtown, even if he did get \$50 a day and had no loving ones who would mourn his loss. Politics had no charms for him anyway, and life was too short for such strenuous risks.

This is only a faint picture of the festivities that have graced Chicago's programme for the past few weeks, and it shows how politics may be practiced to excess. The moral for Utah comes tonight. There is to be a joint debate, and the men whose nerves have been on edge for weeks are likely to have them frayed to a raveling by one speaker or the other at the Theatre. The Herald trusts that the partisans of both sides will observe the amenities of such an occasion and not disturb the speakers by any Chicago diversions. The whole election business will be settled so soon anyway that it isn't worth while to waste the energy and nerve involved in the Chicago system. Let the other fellow have his say; then take your turn, and after it is all over, adjourn to a peaceable rest. It is better so—to say nothing of the legal difficulties involved in a breach of the peace in Utah.

## THE FIRST VOTE.

IN MOST INSTANCES the young man casting his first vote naturally follows his father's example. His environment from boyhood leads him to take the same view of candidates and issues as the older man. Calculations based on this prediction, however, are unsafe this year, because many of the older generation of voters have themselves broken with traditional prejudice and party lines have been rearranged all over the country.

The young man who studies the political situation closely this year is confronted by one problem that overshadows all others for him because it most affects his whole future. He sees the great opportunities in every line of commercial and industrial life being absorbed by a few, a very few men who have grown incredibly rich by government favor. Where they have not fattened off that public treasury, they have thrived by violation of federal laws with the connivance of government officials. The young man whose one wish is to own an independent business finds his ambition limited at every turn by these monopolies. In Utah, if he attempts mining he pays extortionate toll to a smelter trust; if he turns to farming he buys almost everything he uses from trusts which charge what they please, and sells many of his products to trusts. As a merchant he may handle no goods competing with a trust product, on penalty of being driven from business. If he is fortunate he may be favored with employment in some trust institution at a salary; but if he looks into the future and considers the narrowing field left to him, he will hesitate long before he casts his ballot for the party which has identified itself with the trust system.

Is there any tendency of Republicanism that favors the young man's independence in commercial or manufacturing pursuits? Has he any hope that the further spread of monopoly will be restrained by the men now in control of the Republican organization? Does not his only hope of a government for all with special favors for none, lie with the Democratic party and its candidate for the presidency?

These questions have forced themselves upon the consideration of the young voters this year. The answer with most of them is pretty sure to be a vote for Bryan.

## IN LINE OF BATTLE.

WITH CLOSED RANKS and the line of battle well defined on each side, the two great national parties have closed their campaign and are ready for tomorrow's final struggle at the polls. There may be some further skirmishing, but nothing that may be said or done today or tomorrow is likely to make any serious break in the alignment of either side. The armies are too compact and well organized to be stampeded by any false alarm.

The national leaders of either army are confident of success, and each has given reasons for his confidence. Mr. Hanna depends on the old battle cry of prosperity and a gold standard, with a prophecy of disaster if Bryan is elected. He appeals to the country for approval of McKinley's colonial policy, and asks the voter to make no change. With this for a slogan and with ample funds at his disposal, he declares his conviction that McKinley will get as many votes or more than in 1896 and that he will be elected.

Chairman Jones has faith that Bryan will win triumphantly, and to the western observer his belief seems justified by the course of recent events. He counts on the defection of old-line Republicans who are dissatisfied with the McKinley policy in Porto Rico and the Philippines to weaken the president's strength in his own party; while the popular hatred of the trusts and everybody identified with them is certain to increase Bryan's vote in the doubtful states of the middle west, particularly Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. He counts safely on Utah, Idaho and Nevada.

Still further reason for confidence in Bryan's success is cited by Chairman Jones, in the reception given the Democratic can-

didate wherever he has gone in the east. No man since Blaine's day has had anything like the audiences that have greeted Bryan, even in Republican centers, and the contrast with the hearing given him four years ago and the cordial greeting he has had everywhere this year is taken as proof of Bryan gains that will show at the polls.

For the information of those who are studying the possibilities of the situation, The Herald gives below the electoral vote by states in 1896:

| STATES.        | 1896. |
|----------------|-------|
| Alabama        | 11    |
| Arkansas       | 8     |
| California     | 8     |
| Colorado       | 1     |
| Connecticut    | 4     |
| Delaware       | 3     |
| Florida        | 4     |
| Georgia        | 13    |
| Idaho          | 3     |
| Illinois       | 24    |
| Indiana        | 15    |
| Iowa           | 13    |
| Kansas         | 10    |
| Kentucky       | 12    |
| Louisiana      | 8     |
| Maine          | 6     |
| Maryland       | 8     |
| Massachusetts  | 15    |
| Michigan       | 14    |
| Minnesota      | 9     |
| Mississippi    | 9     |
| Missouri       | 17    |
| Montana        | 3     |
| Nebraska       | 3     |
| Nevada         | 3     |
| New Hampshire  | 4     |
| New Jersey     | 10    |
| New York       | 36    |
| North Carolina | 11    |
| North Dakota   | 3     |
| Ohio           | 23    |
| Oregon         | 4     |
| Pennsylvania   | 32    |
| Rhode Island   | 4     |
| South Carolina | 9     |
| South Dakota   | 4     |
| Tennessee      | 12    |
| Texas          | 15    |
| Utah           | 3     |
| Vermont        | 4     |
| Virginia       | 12    |
| Washington     | 4     |
| West Virginia  | 6     |
| Wisconsin      | 12    |
| Wyoming        | 7     |
| Total          | 271   |

Taking these figures as a basis of calculation, the final result seems to depend upon New York, Indiana and Illinois. New York and either of the other two states will make Bryan president, conceding McKinley all the other states he carried in 1896. It is reasonably certain, however, that Kentucky and Maryland, one with thirteen and the other with eight votes will be back in the Democratic column, while Kansas is conceded to be doubtful, and the Republicans are making strong claims that they will carry Wyoming with three and Washington with four votes. They also expect to get all the votes of California where Bryan had one electoral vote in 1896.

With these uncertainties nearly offsetting each other, the figures swing back to New York, Indiana and Illinois as the pivotal states, and the attention devoted to them during the closing days of the campaign show that the managers of both parties believe they are the key to the whole battle.

If McKinley wins it is a foregone conclusion that his popular pluralities will be reduced very much, and it is quite within the possibilities for Bryan to have a plurality of the whole popular vote and still fail in the electoral college.

The congressional election, which has been almost overlooked in the general fight, promises to give the Democrats control of the house of representatives by a small majority, leaving the senate to the Republicans as now constituted. In this event either Bryan or McKinley would find one branch of congress friendly and the other hostile—a regrettable outlook, since it would divide responsibility and impede legislation. If Bryan wins, however, the senate will probably be Democratic before his term expires, where if McKinley wins his party may be able to secure the house at the next congressional election.

Altogether, the nation has not seen a more critical election since the civil war, and the deep interest taken in it shows how thoroughly the issues at stake have stirred the people.

## A COUNTY QUESTION.

WHEN THE TAXPAYERS of Salt Lake county mark their ballots tomorrow they want to remember that the Republican county ticket was named by the same "gang" that has saddled the city treasury with a \$250,000 overdraft, looted the general fund, spent all the November taxes before they have even been collected and dissipated \$68,000 beside that came to them from the preceding administration. No matter what a man's opinion as to the national tickets, he cannot afford to vote for the "gang" that has squandered the city's revenue in such shameless fashion and put them in control of Salt Lake county's affairs.

It is certain that the city will either have to levy an extraordinary tax or sell city property to meet the deficit and regular expenses of 1901; and with the same sort of a situation to meet in the county treasury the taxpayer would be in a desperate position.

The right thing to do, no matter what your politics, is to vote for the Democratic county officials, good men all of them, men who can be depended upon to give an economical, efficient administration. Then go after the Republican city council and compel them to cut down their extravagant expenses and face the emergency before them as a business man would under similar conditions.

The election of the Democratic county ticket will be such a warning to the Republican city looters that they will be compelled to heed it and institute the saving that should have been under way six months ago.

The Honorable Tom Fitch performed an act of senatorial courtesy to the Honorable Tom Kearns at Mercur, in explaining what the latter had intended to say. "These is the islands of Alaska majestically restin' in the bosom of the 'Artic' sea," wrote The Herald correspondent in quotation of the Park City orator, and the migratory spellbinder promptly flew to the defense. "Mr. Kearns undoubtedly meant Luzon and the Philippines," he exclaimed, and the audience laughed again.

## AN INTOLERABLE SCANDAL.

(Philadelphia North American.)

Ellis H. Roberts, treasurer of the United States, is liable to arrest if he enters the state of New York. He is charged with having robbed his own sister of a large sum of money for investment, and the court appointed referee who heard the evidence in the case declares the charge to be sufficiently well founded to warrant the arrest of Treasurer Roberts. If Mr. Roberts is innocent of wrongdoing, and if it is true, as he says, that he borrowed his sister's money and lost it through unfortunate speculation, he should go to New York, accept service of the warrant that is waiting for him and secure vindication in court. Failure to follow that course places the treasurer of the United States in a position very much like that of a fugitive from justice, even if he is not technically so classed.

In the meantime Mr. Roberts should cease or be constrained to cease acting as treasurer of the United States. Decent regard for the dignity of the office demands the instant resignation, or, preferably, the removal of this treasurer, who is not only not above suspicion, but is charged publicly with breach of trust and dishonesty of a peculiarly despicable sort. Guilty or innocent Ellis H. Roberts discredits the administration by being permitted to remain in office while he is dodging the service of an order of court.

## CAMPAIGN OF COERCION.

(Chicago American.)

The city of Chicago presented a curious spectacle last Saturday. The day had been chosen by the Republicans for a great political parade.

Much talent and energy were employed in the arrangements for the parade and an enormous amount of money was expended upon it.

The evidence is conclusive that many of the marching men, and the women who posed on the floats, were there unwillingly, for coercion, mild or drastic, was employed by many employers to force their employees to join the demonstration, whatever their own politics.

The chairman of the Democratic national committee recognized the situation and wisely advised Democrats who were confronted by it to march if it were necessary to retain their employment, but when in the voting booth to act as their conscience dictated.

But the force of wealth in this city openly allied themselves with the Republican party in a way perhaps never before paralleled. The clearing house committee resolved to close for the day and the banks followed suit. The day was not a legal holiday. Most business other than that of the banks continued as usual. But the banks, with unprecendented and insolent disregard to the convenience and rights of their customers, many of who are bitterly opposed to the Republican party, closed in order to aid a partisan demonstration.

The national banks of Chicago, enjoying special and valuable privileges under a Republican administration, have thus put themselves in the position of the Bank of the United States, whose corrupt and indecent participation in politics has been the subject of attack and to destroy it. The national banks invite a new Andrew Jackson and another anti-bank crusade.

The board of trade, too—that colossal home of gambling in the necessities of life, where the food stuffs of the world are "cornered" for the speculation of the consumer, or "sold short" to the detriment of the producer—was closed to do honor to McKinley and Roosevelt.

How faithfully this will impress the farmer, whose warfare on the Chicago wheat pit has been of long duration, remains to be seen.

What the workman, whose dinner pail is not always so exceedingly full, will think of a party thus enjoying the high favor and friendship of the foresters and manufacturers of markets, can only be guessed.

In their essence banks and the board of trade are public institutions. If they have any right to exist they owe duties to the public—not to the Democratic public or the Republican public, but to all the people. Their action in Chicago was dishonest and indecent. It is a refreshing example of poetical justice, speaking well for the independence of Chicago people, that the holiday was taken upon the community for the glory of the Republican party closed with a Democratic demonstration, which even the Republican Associated Press calls "probably the largest outdoor political mass meeting ever organized in Chicago," and that the Republican parade, for which the holiday was taken, and only 35,572 persons in line, instead of the 125,000 promised by its organizers.

## Bryan Hasn't Expressed Himself.

(Chicago Record.)

The longer The Record contemplates Mr. Bryan the greater in-vance he thinks Mr. Bryan's election would be to the country.

## Probably Too Excited to Talk.

(Chattanooga News.)

Chairman Jones should not be so inquisitive. Of course, President McKinley is not going to answer his questions during the heat of the campaign.

## Preparing to Be Called "Rebels."

(St. Louis Post-Dispatch.)

Before the end of another year the Cubans may be "insurgents." They are very suspicious of the continued occupancy of their island by Americans.

## Who Would Have Thought It?

(Denver News.)

Governor Pingree of Michigan has filed an opinion to the effect that an ardent yearn is sure to bump up against ambitious eclipse in the political divorce court.

## But He Does It.

(Minneapolis Times.)

Republican politicians are of the opinion that this is a bad time for ex-President Harrison to be lavishing his eloquence on the American Public Health association.

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